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UNCLAS HARARE 001145

SIPDIS

AF/PD FOR COX AND ROBERTSON, AF/S FOR KRAFT AND SCHLACHTER,
AF/RA FOR DIPALMA, INR/R/MR, NSC FOR JENDAYI FRAZER

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REPORT ON MUGABE'S VISIT TO THE UN

- [¶](#)1. Under headline "One trip to New York won't change much"
the independent daily "The Daily News" dedicated its May 14 editorial to President Mugabe's May 8-11 Trip to UN headquarters in New York. Excerpts:
- [¶](#)2. "President Mugabe ignored the crisis in his own country
and flew to the UN in New York just to cock a snook at his domestic and international detractors. . . It would seem that massaging his own political ego is much more vital to the President than the prospect of facing head-on the problems his government has created for the last 22 years. The conference on children at the UN was important in its own way, but not for a head of state whose country has not recovered from the political fall-out of an election condemned as woefully flawed by everybody not particularly starry-eyed about the false glory of 'regaining our heritage' - the violence-riddled land reform program. . ."

SULLIVAN